

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

/JP2004/008697

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B60K6/04 B60L11/18

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B60K B60L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 549 840 B1 (KAWABATA TAKUJI ET AL) 15 April 2003 (2003-04-15)	1-9, 11-19
Y	column 23, line 26 – column 29, line 4; figures 3,7 column 43, line 47 – column 44, line 29 abstract	10
X	US 6 381 522 B1 (SEKOZAWA TERUJI ET AL) 30 April 2002 (2002-04-30) column 5, line 29 – column 7, line 38; figures 1-4 abstract	1-9, 11-19
X	US 2003/037977 A1 (AMANUMA HIROKATSU ET AL) 27 February 2003 (2003-02-27) page 4, paragraph 52-59; figures 1,7-9 abstract	1-9, 11-19
		-/-

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

15 October 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

28/10/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 909 675 A (TOYOTA MOTOR CO LTD) 21 April 1999 (1999-04-21) column 4, line 22 - column 8, line 30; figures 1,3,4 abstract -----	1,11
Y	SPOONER E ET AL: "'TORUS': A SLOTLESS, TOROIDAL-STATOR, PERMANENT-MAGNET GENERATOR" IEE PROCEEDINGS B. ELECTRICAL POWER APPLICATIONS, INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS. STEVENAGE, GB, vol. 139, no. 6, 1 November 1992 (1992-11-01), pages 497-506, XP000343941 the whole document -----	10

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International application No.
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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Present claims 1 to 19 relate to a method and an apparatus defined by reference to a desirable characteristic or property, namely the expressions "input restriction", "output restriction" and "driveable range". Those limitations do not define the technical features necessary to carry out the invention. Moreover, only the description provides information about the meaning of the above identified limitations.

The claims cover all methods and apparatuses having this characteristic or property, whereas the application provides support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and/or disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT for only a very limited number of such methods and apparatuses.

In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Independent of the above reasoning, the claims also lack clarity (Article 6 PCT). An attempt is made to define the method and the apparatuses by reference to a result to be achieved. Again, this lack of clarity in the present case is such as to render a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope impossible.

Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claims which appear to be clear, supported and disclosed, namely those parts relating to the definition of the above identified limitations in the description on page 21, lines 10 to 16, i.e. that the battery temperature and state of charge are used for determining the drivable range.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

National Application No

/JP2004/008697

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)			Publication date
US 6549840	B1	15-04-2003	JP	2001105919 A	17-04-2001
			JP	2001112114 A	20-04-2001
			DE	10049567 A1	31-10-2001
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			JP	2000232703 A	22-08-2000
			DE	10005581 A1	26-10-2000
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			DE	10225873 A1	20-03-2003
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			CA	2249933 A1	13-04-1999
			EP	0909675 A2	21-04-1999
			JP	2003219510 A	31-07-2003
			US	6075346 A	13-06-2000